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prehensively given to the public in this volume. It is a well-merited and timely tribute to the life and achievements of a remarkable man, appropriately offered upon this the centennial anniversary of his birth, for which Mr. Casson is entitled to the gratitude of all admirers of true genius.

SOMETHING OF MEN I HAVE KNOWN; WITH
SOME PAPERS OF A GENERAL NATURE,
POLITICAL, HISTORICAL AND
RETROSPECTIVE.

By ADLAI E. STEVENSON
A. C. McClurg & Co., Publishers, 1909

Of several volumes of historical import issued during the present year (1909) one of the most attractive and entertaining is the above entitled work of Hon. Adlai Ewing Stevenson, of Bloomington, Ills., former Vice President of the United States. Although transcending in its scope the limits of Illinois, it is nevertheless distinctively an Illinois book, well worthy to take rank among the products of the best Illinois writers.

And though a native of Kentucky, Gen. Stevenson is, in every essential respect, an Illinoisan by right of his residence here for almost the entire period allotted to man's existence—three score and ten years—and by his identification in that time with every material interest of the State which he has so highly honored. And now in the closing days of his busy, useful and well-spent life he has employed his leisure hours in writing “in the spirit of candor of men he has known, and of great events in which he has himself borne no inconspicuous part.”

Beginning with his admission to the bar he tells of the early courts in central Illinois, and something of his legal colleagues who “rode the circuits” and ably upheld the purity and dignity of western jurisprudence. Elected to represent his district in the 44th Congress, and re-elected to the 46th, subsequently serving four years as Assistant

Postmaster General, and later as Vice President, presiding for four years over the deliberations of the United States Senate, his intimate association with the most prominent men in public affairs of his times, afforded him rare and varied experience, and exceptional opportunities for observing the trend of current history and the men who made it. What he tells of Douglas, Garfield, Blaine, Lincoln, Morrison, Oglesby, Trumbull, Peter Cartwright, Randall, McKinley, and other illustrious figures, who for a time "filled the public eye," but have gone to their eternal rest, forms a valued contribution to the historic lore of our State and country. The work is not a continuous narrative, but a collection of separate monographs each complete in itself. "The Actors," "A Tribute to Ireland," "The Lost Art of Oratory," "The Colonels," "Contrasts of Time," are the titles of some of the chapters, and in several the author gives his impressions and observations during his visit to Europe.

Written in lucid, scholarly and elegant style, the book is historical, biographical and philosophical. Garnished throughout with appropriate quotations from the poets, it sparkles with wit and genuine humor, and is highly spiced with an abundance of amusing anecdotes. The general reader will derive from it more and better entertainment than from most of the popular works of fiction, and it will furnish to the student of American history many well-accredited facts that he may search for elsewhere in vain. Its 442 pages, executed in perfection of the printer's art, are embellished with many portraits of men the author discourses about, and are supplemented with a complete index.

NEW BOOKS.

The titles of two late books of interest to Illinoisans are given below.

Abraham Lincoln. by George Haven Putnam, Litt. D. G. P. Putnam's Sons, Pub., New York and London.

A Knight of the Wilderness, by Oliver Marble Gale and Harriet Wheeler. Chicago, 1909. The Reilly & Britton Co., Pub.